A True and Impartial Account
OF A
Great and Bloody Fight
Between part of the
ENGLISH FLEET,
Commanded by
Sir Cloveſly Shovel,
AND THE
FRENCH at SEA.

With an Account of the Men Killed and Wounded. Together with the great Bravery and Courage of
Captain Hoskins.

From on Board their Majeſties Ship the Crown, *this Ninth of* December, 1690. *Riding* Plimouth-Sound.

Licenſed according to Order.

My Loving Friend,

AS I promiſed at parting to acquaint you of any thing of moment betwixt the *French* and *Us* that might be: Take this from me as a Real Account being an Eye-witneſs.

Laſt *Sunday* Morning being the *Seventh*, by Break of Day, being Cruſing with Sir *Cloveſly Shovell* in his Squadron, about Twenty Leagues *South-Weſt* of the *Lizard*: In all of us Five Sail of Men of War and one Fireſhip, whoſe Names are the *Monk*, Rear-Admiral, the *York*, *Crown*, *Debtford*, *Dover*, who all Eſpying a *French* Man of War in a League off us, we all Bore after her, which the *French* ſeeing, made the beſt of his Heels; but the *Crown* Sailing beſt, we got on Her, and about Twelve got up with Her, and had *a Bloody Fight* for the time of half an hour, till at laſt we Clapt her on Board, carried her Main-Maſt, and ſo made our ſelves Maſters of her: The Number of what Men the *French*

had Killed is uncertain, ſome ſay 40, ſome 50; we loſt but one Man, beſides ſeveral wounded. We brought Her in laſt Night. The *French* are yet on Board us; a great many of them wounded: She is a Rich Prize, and hath in ſome Meaſure requited the Couragious Seamen for their Valour: Her Name is the *Slut*, 28 Guns 10 Patereroes; we asking the Priſoners what made them Fight at ſo great diſadvantage, they ſay, the *French* King will Hang up every Captain that doth not Fight, though with a Fleet. The *French* Captain is Killed, the Lieutenant dangerouſly wounded in the Thigh, and almoſt all the Officers.

And now I cannot but acquaint you of the Gallant Behaviour of Captain *Hoskins* Incouraging his Men, every Officer particular to their Charge, he expoſing himſelf to the greateſt Dangers: A great Shot coming cloſe to Him, almoſt Mortally Wounded another. But to be ſhort, both Officers and Seamen Behaved themſelves truly Couragious to the Honour of our Nation. I have not time to write any more particulars; but do deſire you to take a Copy of this as ſoon as you have Read it. You may Aſſure your ſelf, this is the firſt come to you, and all Truth. My Service to your good Lady.

I Reſt yours to Serve.

Tho. Pitts.

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